

THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2017 CINCINNATI.COM

PART OF THE USA



OHIO

Sacramento hits snag in bid for MLS team

Sports, 1C



Cincinnati police and fire respond to an overdose at Piatt Park in downtown Cincinnati. LIZ DUFOUR/THE ENQUIRER

FATAL ODs SOAR

State ranked second in the nation in overdose deaths in 2016

Terry DeMio
Cincinnati Enquirer
USA TODAY NETWORK

Overdose deaths are accelerating in the nation, and Ohio is ahead of the curve.

Not only did the state rank 2nd in the number of such deaths in 2016 behind only West Virginia, the deadly trend is continuing and possibly accelerating in 2017, early reports show.

"It's horrifying," said Nan Franks, CEO of Addiction Services Council, a nonprofit that is at the forefront of fighting the



Despite more access to Narcan, shown in the form of a nasal spray, overdose deaths have risen. JOHN MINCHILLO/AP

opioid epidemic in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

A National Center for Health Statistics report showing just provisional overdose death counts from May 2016 to May this year shows Ohio had a 41 percent rise in its deaths, and Kentucky had nearly a 20 percent increase in its overdose deaths.

The jump in both states was steeper than the 17 percent rise in overdose fatalities nationally. The bleak new report adds that the provisional data in it is "likely underreported" and incomplete.

See **OVERDOSES**, Page 5A



LOCAL, 6A

Police: Psych unit shooter had record

Records: Man mentally ill and avoided charges in previous shooting.



USA TODAY, 1B

More bad news for Amtrak

Rail service takes another hit after derailment near Seattle.



WEEKEND, 1D

Don't miss on celebrating the holidays

Catch these light shows, Santa sightings and other traditions.



Daily \$1.50

USA TODAY

Exclusive: VA hired workers with revoked medical licenses, 1B

cincinnati.com

Congratulations, Ohio drivers, you're among the worst in the country.

Volume 177th | No. 257
Home delivery pricing inside
Subscribe 800-876-4500
©2017
The Cincinnati Enquirer

Weather

High 57° Low 45°
Showers. Forecast, 2A

MUSIC HALL
NEW YEAR'S EVE
featuring Morgan James

MUSIC HALL
DEC 31

John Morris Russell conductor
Morgan James vocalist

513.381.3300
cincinnati.com

BACH + BEETHOVEN
AND THE CSO'S HISTORY

MUSIC HALL
JAN 6-7

Louis Langrée conductor
Owen Lee double bass

513.381.3300
cincinnati.com

★macy's